

**Thomas Jefferson to Thomas Mann Randolph, Jr.,
June 28, 1808, with Copy, from The Works of Thomas
Jefferson in Twelve Volumes. Federal Edition. Collected
and Edited by Paul Leicester Ford.**

TO THOMAS MANN RANDOLPH J. MSS.

Washington, June 28th, 08.

Dear Sir, —I enclose you a mercantile advertiser for the sake of the extraordinary fabrication in it's Postscript by an arrival from Cork with London dates to the 9th of May. The arrival of the Osage in, England (which had been detained in France by Armstrong himself) furnishes the occasion of amusing that nation with the forgeries of fact which I have included in an inked line on the margin, within which line every word is false. Yet this lie will run through all the papers. Few readers will think of asking themselves how tiffs London (or Cork) printer should know all the particulars he states, & for which he quotes no authority. The fact is that there never has been a proposition or intimation to us from France to join them in the war, unless Champagny's letter be so considered: nor has there ever been the slightest disrespect to Armstrong, as far as we have a right to conclude from his silence and from that of Turreau. So from England we have in like manner had no such intimation except in Holland & Auckland's note subjoined to the treaty. We have nothing from Armstrong or Pinckney. Indeed we can have nothing interesting from France while the Emperor is absent. I continue to send you the *Public Advertiser & citizen* of N.Y. while their fire is kept up on the presidential election. The papers of the other states are almost entirely silent on the subject. It seems understood that De Witt Clinton sinks with his tool Cheetham. We have proof on the oath of a credible man that he set Burr on board the last British packet in the evening of her departure. He was disguised in a sailor's habit, as

Library of Congress

were two other gentlemen unknown to the person, but one of whom Burr called *Ogden* at taking leave. He was met at N. York by Mrs. Alston, whose child babbled out in his play with another that "Grandpapa was come."

I charged Bacon very strictly to keep the water of the canal always running over the waste, as Shoemaker has made the want of water the ground of insisting on a suspension of rent, and will probably continue to do it. Present my tender love to Martha & the family and be assured yourself of my affectionate attachment & respect.